



MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Kenita V. Barrow
Chair

Mark L. Greenblatt
Vice Chair

April 15, 2015

Waiver 15-04-007

Pursuant to § 19A-12(b)(1)(B) of the Public Ethics Law, a public employee must not be employed by a business that negotiates or contracts with the County agency with which the public employee is affiliated, unless the Ethics Commission grants a waiver.

Ivy K. Reed, is a part-time (approximately 20 hours per week) Child Welfare Caseworker at the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Child Welfare Services Office. She requests a waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b)(1)(B) so that she can be employed by Medstar Montgomery Medical Center as a Social Worker in the Resource Management Department.

Ms. Reed's current job duties include case management for children placed in the state of Maryland from other states across the country via the Inter-State Compact (ICPC) and all related activities including assisting families in obtaining needed resources and support in the community to ensure that the children's needs are being met. In her position with the County, Ms. Reed will not be making any decisions related to the contract that Montgomery County has with Medstar.

Ms. Reed's job duties as a medical social worker at Medstar will include facilitating the continuity of care to patients and families through psychosocial assessment, counseling, crisis intervention, referral and discharge planning services. In her position with Medstar, Ms. Reed will not be working on the contract that Montgomery County has with Medstar. Ms. Reed can recuse herself if a Montgomery County child welfare client seeks services from Medstar.

Pursuant to § 19A-8(b)(3) of the Public Ethics Law, the Ethics Commission may grant a waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b) if the Ethics Commission concludes that the proposed employment is not likely to create an actual conflict of interest. Upon a review of the request and the Department's concurrence in and support for the waiver request, the Commission finds that there is no actual conflict of interest. Pursuant to the standard of § 19A-8(b)(3), the Commission grants the waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b). The waiver is conditioned on Ms. Reed recusing herself from providing services for Medstar involving a person she knows to be a Montgomery County child welfare client; furthermore, Ms. Reed may not, in her official capacity, refer Montgomery County child welfare clients to Medstar.

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In reaching this decision, the Commission has relied upon the facts as presented by Ms. Reed.

For the Commission:



Kenita V. Barrow